2 JUL 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Joint Computer Support

SUBJECT   : Concurrence for Consultant Services for [   ]   STATSPEC
                 RAPID System

REFERENCES   : (a) My memo for D/JCS, Concurrence in Acquisition
STATSPEC   of [   ] RAPID System, dtd 26 Jun 74, with
                      concurrence by D/JCS dtd 26 Jun 74

                 (b) Draft Request to Procurement Division for
                      Services, undated

                 (c) Copy of unsolicited proposal [   ]   STATINTL
                      dtd 12 June 75

STATINTL   1. Your concurrence is requested in my initiating action for
            a contract [   ] to provide consultant
            services for the testing, installation and acceptance of the [   ]   STATSPEC
            RAPID system being developed and manufactured by [   ]   STATINTL
STATINTL   [   ], California. In reference (a), you concurred in
            the original contract action for procurement of the system.

            2. As set forth in reference (b), [   ] would review   STATINTL
            relevant documentation for the purpose of advising on the credibility
            of installation and performance schedules, participate in the
            preparation and monitoring of functional and system testing, prepare
            and carry out failure mode and recovery testing, and write an
            acceptance test report. The company's preliminary bid is $56,792,
            a copy of which is attached.

            3. As you will recall from discussions last year, with
STATSPEC   installation of this system [   ] will be making its first major
            venture into automation. When completed, the system will be the
STATSPEC   keystone of [   ] overseas and Headquarters operations and must re-
            liably support real-time operations in response [   ] round-the-   STATSPEC
            clock responsibilities to the Intelligence Community. The system has
            evolved over time in measured steps, benefiting from models, advice

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and participation of other contractors and consultants and many people within the Agency, especially in OJCS. The system is developmental for both the contractor, ⬚ ⬚ The company has a substantial vested interest in the successful completion of the project (fixed price of $942,500, about $750,000 less than actual cost of development).

4. Our interest in obtaining third-party assistance in testing and accepting the system is dictated by a number of considerations:

    a. Although the contractor has shown good faith in its efforts to date to build a satisfactory system, performance has been poor in the area of documentation. The company has been laggard in supplying schedules and progress reports and the papers that have been furnished have been sketchy and incomplete. It has yet to furnish detailed installation, cutover, testing and training plans and we have misgivings about its ability to do a proper job in these areas without substantial input on our part.

    b. Our own resources to meet this need are inadequate. We are forming a small systems staff (including personnel on rotation from OJCS), but the two staffers now on duty are heavily involved in learning the architecture and programming of the system they will eventually manage. The system manager has done a good deal of spadework in outlining acceptance test objectives, but we do not feel that he is in a position to take full responsibility for system testing and acceptance without experienced help from outside ⬚

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    c. Although OJCS provided invaluable assistance in the system specification and proposal evaluation stages of RAPID, we deem it unlikely that OJCS has the available resources to provide the support we need at this stage. The system ⬚ is building employs the company's own hardware and software and embodies a design which, as far as we know, has no counterpart within the Agency.

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5. Delivery of the first elements of the system is imminent. I would appreciate your earliest response to this proposal.

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Attachments:
  ATT A - Memo of Concurrence in Acquisitions of [   ]RAPID System   STATSPEC
  ATT B - Request to Procurement Division for Services (Form 2420)
  ATT C - Proposal for Test Support [   ]   STATINTL

CONCURRENCE:

_____   _____
Director of Joint Computer Support   Date

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